

# "HEY, CAN'T YOU FORGET BUSINESS?"

WALL STREET JOURNAL **CARTOONS**



SELECTED BY

**CHARLES PRESTON**

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## Wall Street Journal Cartoons

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*"I started this business with nothing but talent, ambition, brains, the will to succeed, and a good wife whose late father owned the company."*

American business, without which the United States wouldn't be where it is today, provides a fertile field for the rapier wit of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL'S clever cartoonists.

This collection of All-American humor burlesques every type of activity directed toward earning a living. Here are the cigar-smoking executives, the impudent office boys, the slap-happy salesmen, and the lovable secretaries.

Every part of the day's activity is screened for laughs: from late-to-work episodes, expense account problems, boss-secretary relations,

*(Continued on Flap II)*

\$3.00





A very faint, large watermark-like image of a classical building with four columns and a pediment is visible in the background.

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# “HEY, CAN’T YOU FORGET BUSINESS?”

It is often said that the readers of The Wall Street Journal are the men everywhere who get ahead and stay ahead in business.

So, it is encouraging to note, from their reaction to the amusing little cartoon appearing daily on our editorial page, that such fellers do have and retain a sense of humor.

It is a pleasure to send you this book and we hope that you and yours will get many a chuckle out of it.



THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



# **"HEY, CAN'T YOU FORGET BUSINESS?"**

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**WALL STREET JOURNAL CARTOONS**

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*SELECTED BY*

**CHARLES PRESTON**

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**“HEY, CAN’T YOU  
FORGET BUSINESS?”**



*"Even if I had Octopus Stew for lunch, my wife would have the same thing for supper tonight."*



Serrano

*"Yes, dear . . . of course, dear . . . whatever you think best, dear . . . I don't know, dear."*



*"Now we're getting somewhere, sir. If the letter isn't  
in this basket, that narrows the search  
down to the files."*



*"What worries me is that this 79¢  
isn't working for me."*



*"We'll have to stop this senseless spending  
like your monthly trips to the beauty parlor!"*



*"No, it's not about the eighty dollars you won  
at the races in 1950—could you direct  
me to Chambers Street?"*







"Now, me, I'm strictly impartial—maybe that's because I've never had any direct contact with either capital OR labor."



"I know how much you dislike working overtime, but" . . .



*"There's just one point against you, Mr. Shylock . . ."*



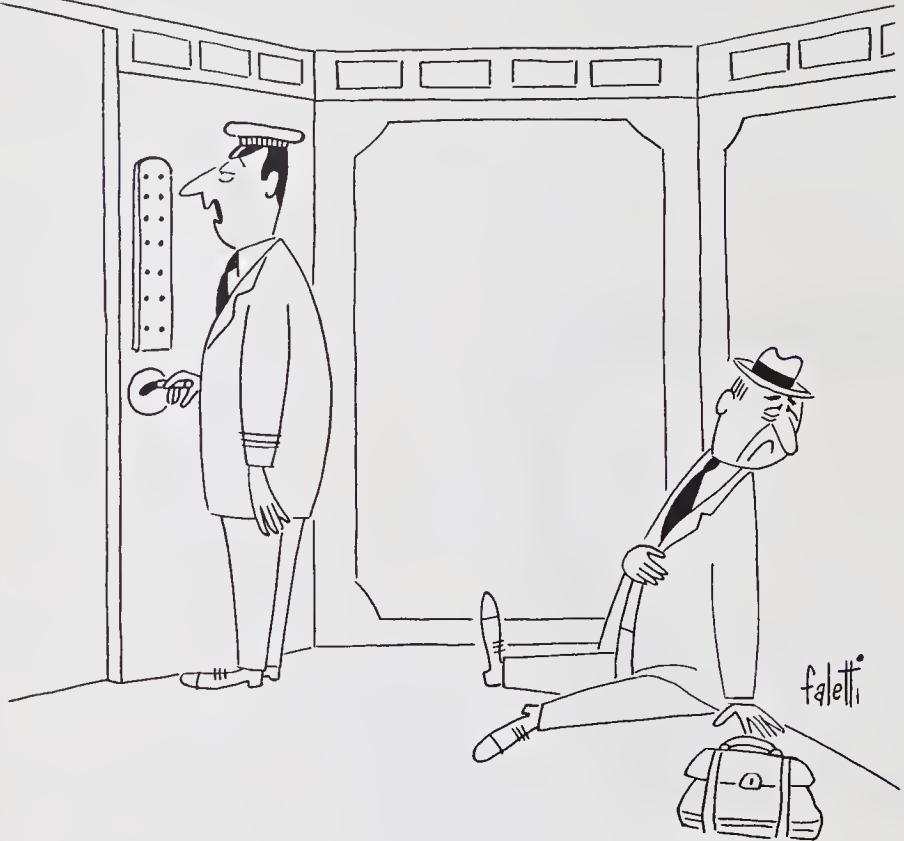
*"Don't be upset if my wife gives you a nasty look, boss. She doesn't know about those last two raises."*



*"My first desk."*



*"... oh sure, I have your letter right here in front of me."*



*"Main floor."*



*"Darling, I know this contest isn't open to the company's employees, advertising agents, or families, but mother has her heart set on it . . ."*



*"And furthermore, I distinctly remember dropping a check for you in the mail box at least a week ago. Therefore, gentlemen, I can see no reason . . ."*

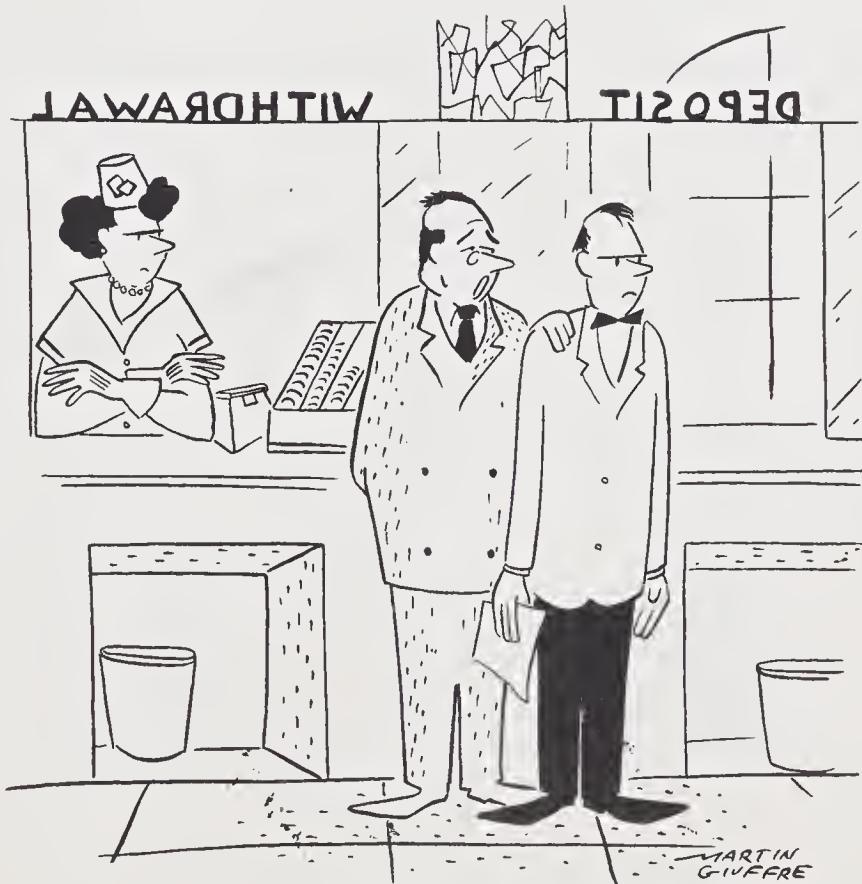




*"He never wastes a minute, J.P.—that's his lunch."*



*"Another day, another dollar, minus of course, social security, withholding tax, hospitalization, bond payment, union dues, and the company's-employee's own retirement fund."*



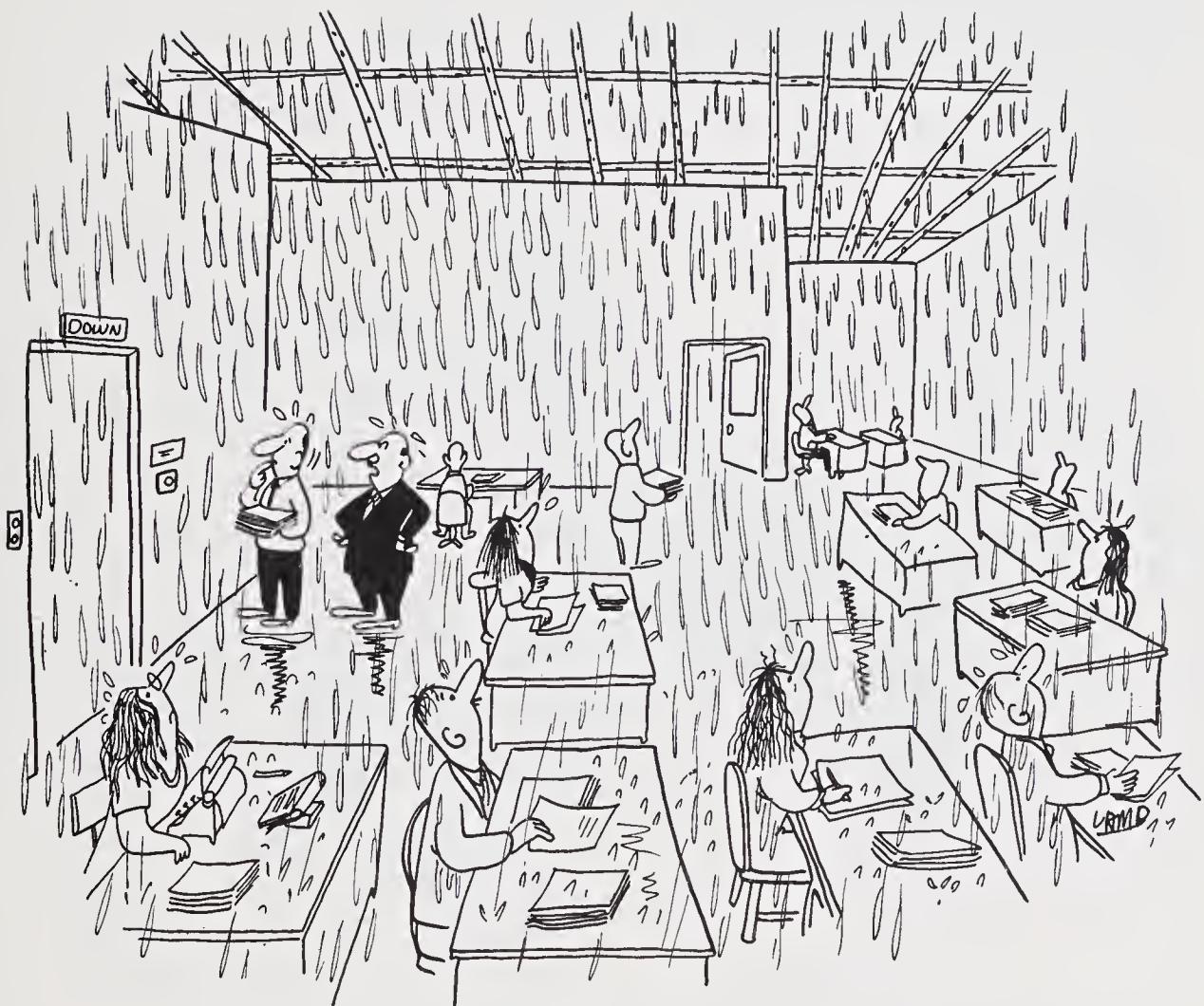
*"Wife or no wife—she is our customer."*



*"Thinks the world of that boy."*



*"What did you bring me . . . hello daddy."*



"Comstock — that is not the elevator button!"



*"I guess she's gone — we'll have to wait 'til morning to get these reports copied."*



*"No, I'm not waiting to see anyone, I'm just resting."*



*"This is a wonderful suggestion, Miss Mursh.  
What show would you like to see?"*



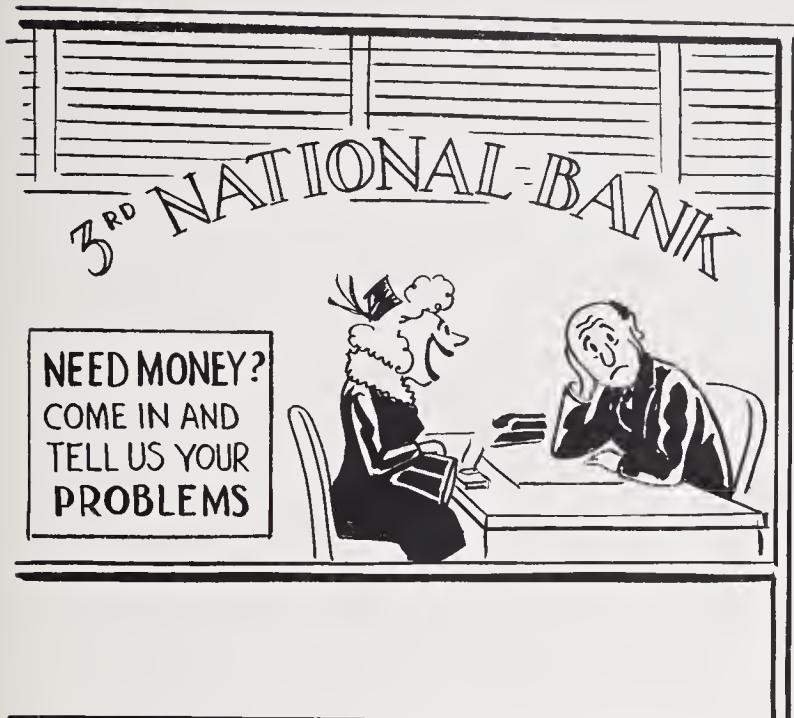
*"He wants to stop payment on a check for \$5,000,  
made out to the Brooklyn Bridge Corporation."*



*"It was your butler and he said to tell you that . . . SAY . . .  
SINCE WHEN HAVE YOU HAD A BUTLER?"*



*"Yep! And on a white horse, too!"*



"And don't think you're fooling me about how much work,  
you do around this office!"



*"Never mind, I'm not interested in  
the back view!"*



*"He also has a rough interior."*



"Save 88 cents for the milkman."



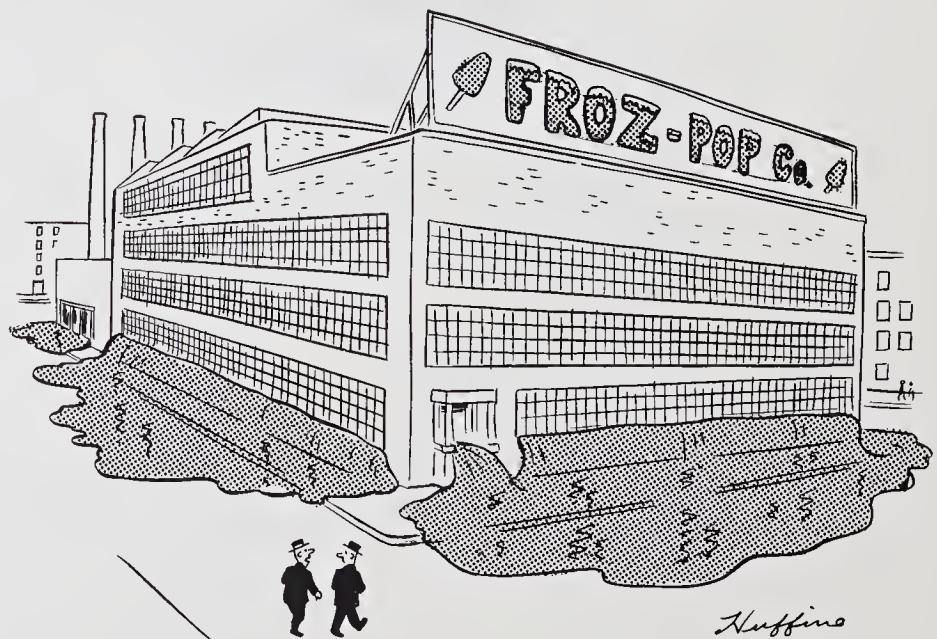
*"If we can get a subsidy we can give this country what it needs,  
a good five cent cigar."*



*"That will be fifty dollars, and remember I want you to feel free to call on me at anytime."*



*"When I complained about being lonely, I had  
no idea the government would do  
anything about it."*



*"Good heavens, man. You mean you forgot and  
left it on defrost all night?"*

*"Ladies and Gentlemen, this request for me to say a few words comes as a complete surprise!"*



*Goodness! Mr. Johnson really should do something about those terrible hiccups of his!"*





*"I merely said I had a hard day at the office. I did not say you had it easy."*



*"Eat a hearty lunch, Jackson?"*



*"You and your friends in the wholesale rope business!"*



*"Don't bother making coffee this morning, dear. I'm going to have to hurry."*



"We'll be sorry to see you go, Miss Hackney—  
your spelling has afforded us  
many hilarious moments."



"Coffee nerves."



*"When I said I wanted an itemized expense account, I didn't have in mind listing side dishes such as cole slaw or potato salad."*



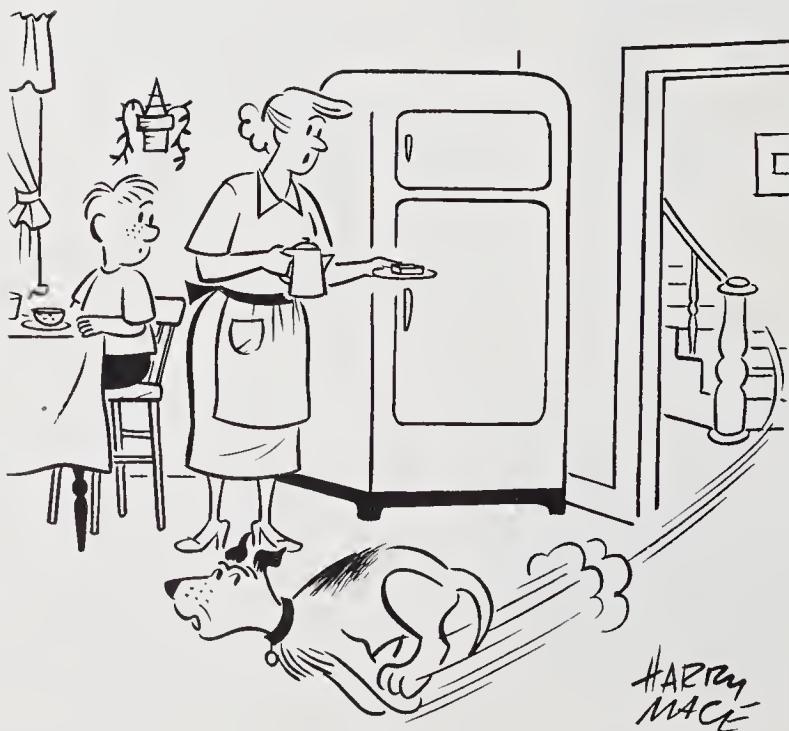
"The Board of Directors estimates that your suggestion will save the company over \$30,000 a year—and they therefore empowered me to ask what kind of cigars you smoke."



*"I was a personnel manager."*



*"Oh, I'd say my secretary is just an average looking girl. But here, you judge for yourself—got a picture of her somewhere in this wallet, I think . . ."*



*"Daddy must be getting up."*



*"Of course I'll endorse that check. What do you want me to say about it?"*



"I'm sure you nice gentlemen won't mind if I steal Bimpsy away a wee bit early."



"Take a post card, Miss Hobbs."



*"He'll go places. He laughs at my jokes without even asking for a raise."*

*"What? My wife has just given birth to a baby boy? Good, put him on the phone!"*



*JACK  
MARKOW*



*"Got stuck in a sand trap with him once. He sold me \$40,000 of insurance before I got out."*

# PARFUMS



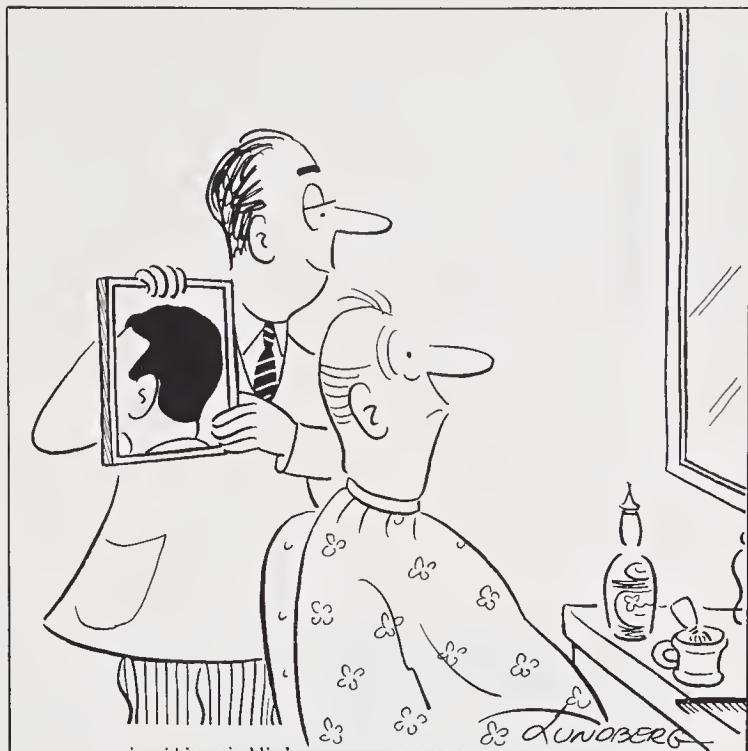
Follett

"That's an interesting fact you've discovered, Miss Brady, but I'd hardly describe it as an additional selling point!"



Follett

"Say, Neidlinger, are you just trying to make more work for me?"



*"Is my new secretary pretty? Oh, I suppose some people would consider her a rather nice-looking dish."*



*"I've been meaning to talk to you, young lady—"*



*"I've got bad news for you folks—he took it with him."*



*"That gentleman is still here to see  
you, Mr. Waldron!"*



*"When did you first discover that you enjoyed  
paying your income tax?"*



*"I got the worms—let's go!"*



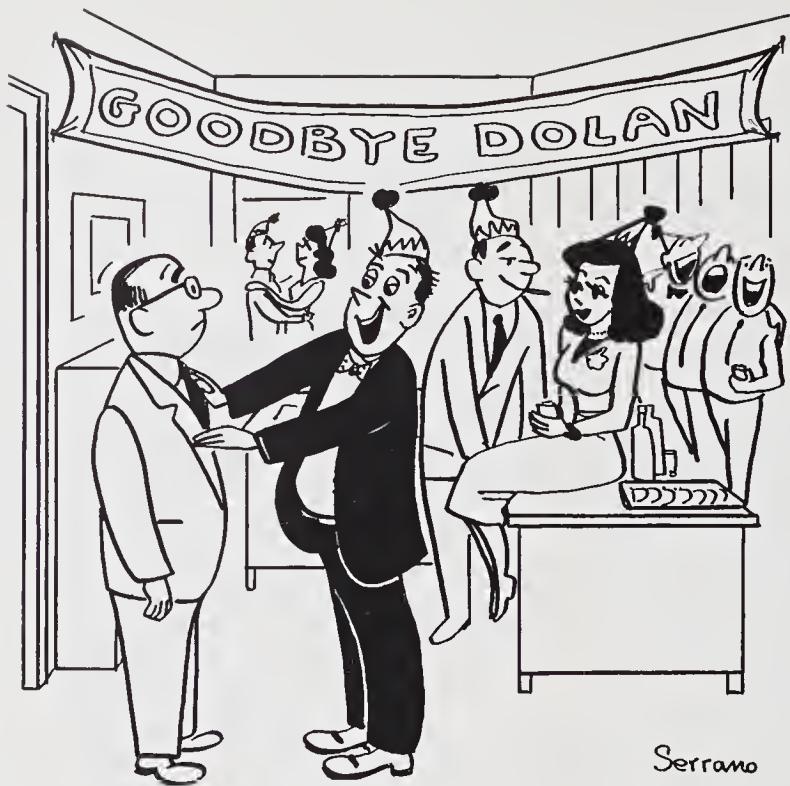
*"Hello, main office, Mr. Okin there? Oh, speaking?  
Timber, Okin, timber!!!!"*



*"At last!"*



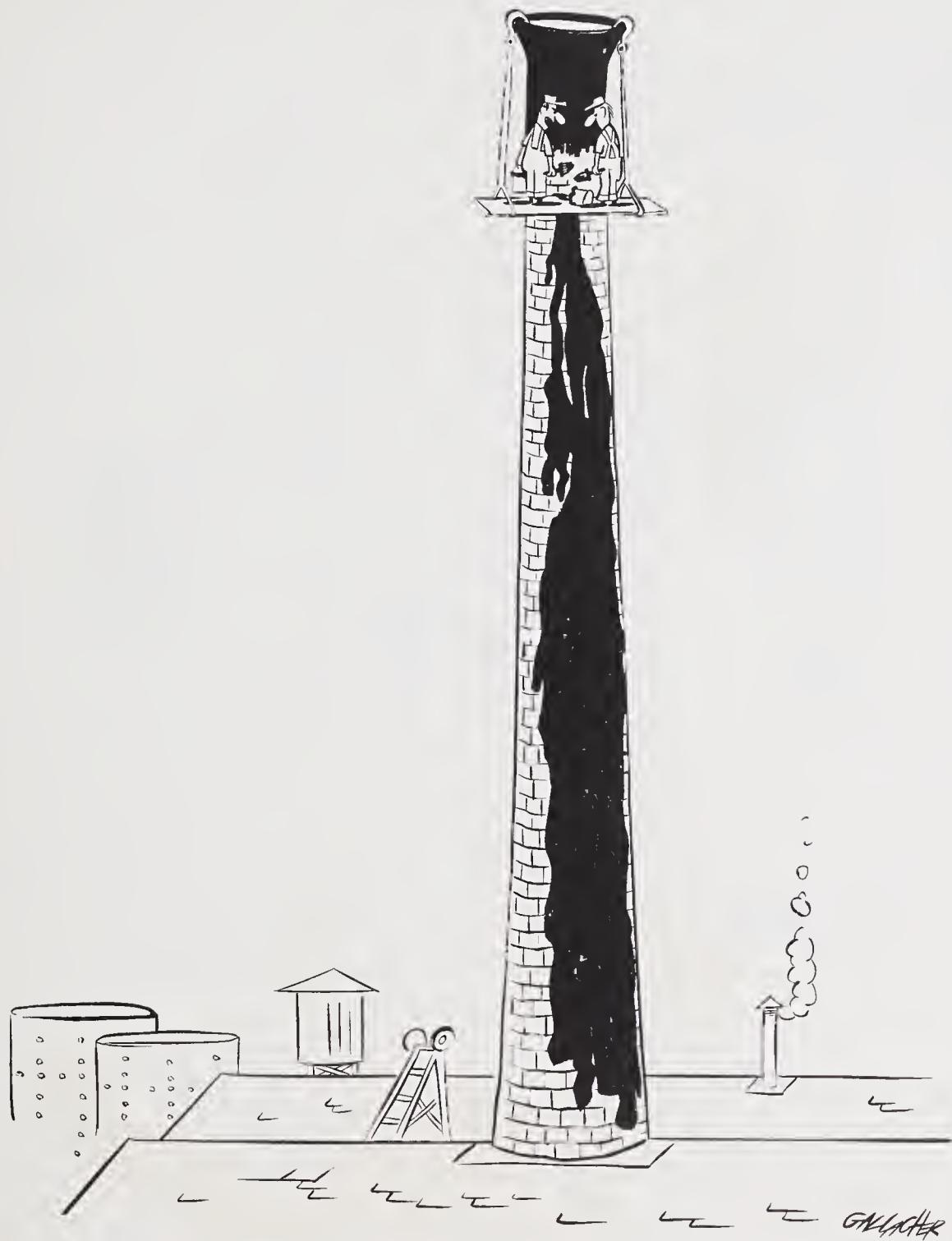
SERRANO



*"Boss, I'm having such a wonderful time I've  
decided not to leave!"*



*"Yes, Mrs. Botley, this is his snip of  
a secretary speaking—"*



"Well, Stupid, there's four days work we don't get paid for!"



*"Oh, she can type sixty words a minute all right—rigartn yur lettuz uv  
ugest tweft dith kumpny 12 . . ."*





*"At these prices you should have sold . . . not bought."*



*"The way I look at it—it's organizing ability that counts!"*



*"I said unfasten your safety belt."*



*"I don't care if you have formed a union—  
GET TO BED!"*



"I'm new here—where do you hide?"





*"Looks like you got that raise, Mr. Evans."*



*"It all started one morning when he made a business call during breakfast."*



*"Who's the new man?"*



*"I started this business with nothing but talent, ambition, brains, the will to succeed, and a good wife whose late father owned the company."*



*"This set of books, Mr. Cartwell, or the set you keep in the broom closet?"*



*"Thought I'd drop in and thank you for the paltry raise."*



*"I chose you for this assignment because it needs a man who can make quick decisions. Now, think it over for a couple of weeks, talk it over with your wife, and let me know."*



*"Will you see a Mrs. Hanley?"*



*"I hoped he'd take the hint when I had his  
pay check gift-wrapped."*



"Score! I don't want to know my score!  
I play for relaxation . . . see!"



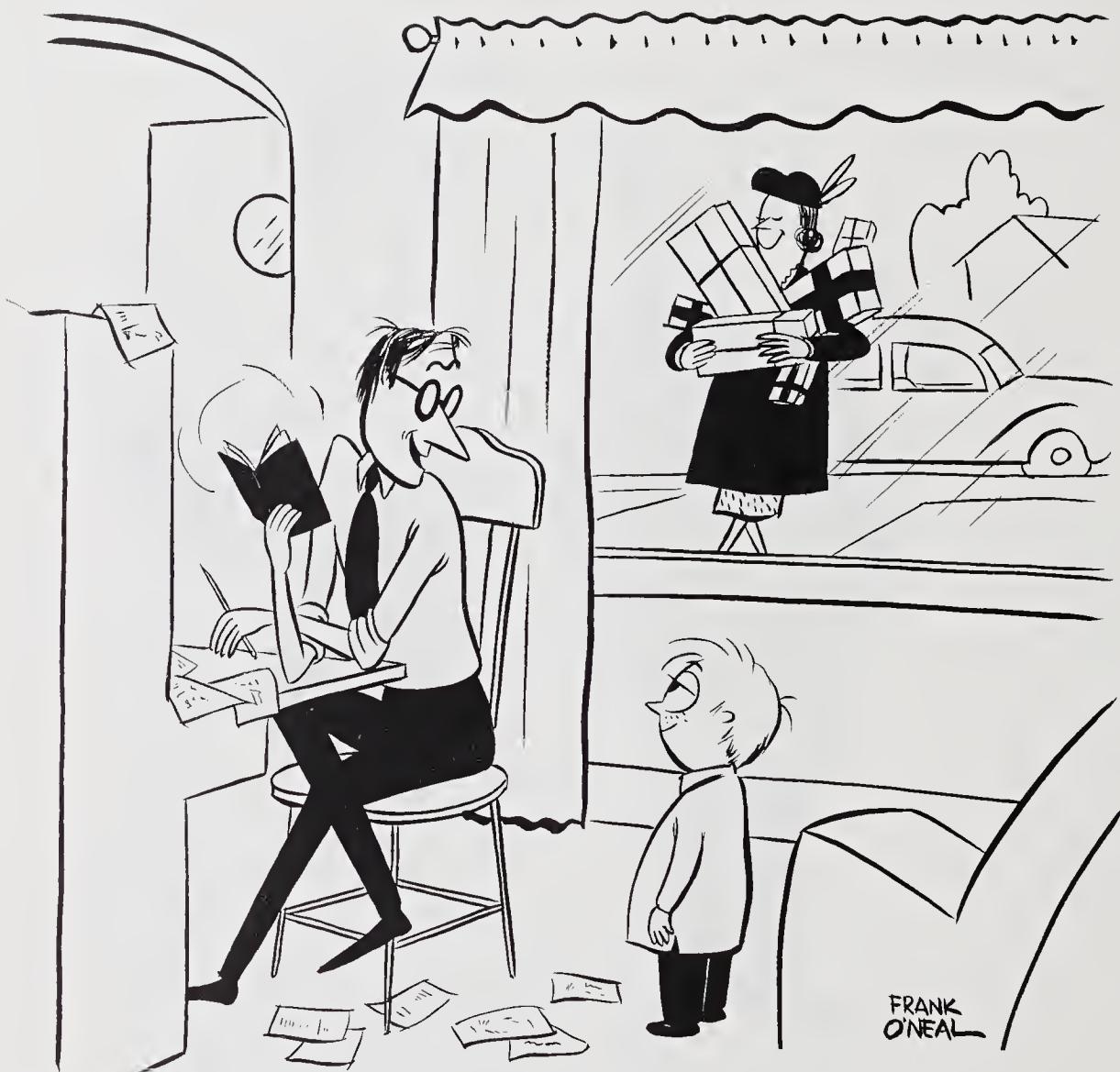
"Where are those repair men? Didn't you tell them  
this cable is just hanging by a thread?"



*"Another crank letter. Someone wants to know what happened to the promises you made at election time."*



*"It won't be a bit of fun. Just some boring little thing I have  
to attend to keep the boss happy."*



*"All balanced . . . and your mother said it couldn't be  
done on my salary."*



*"Summon the entire staff to my office, Miss Newton. I'm lonesome."*

*lonesome*



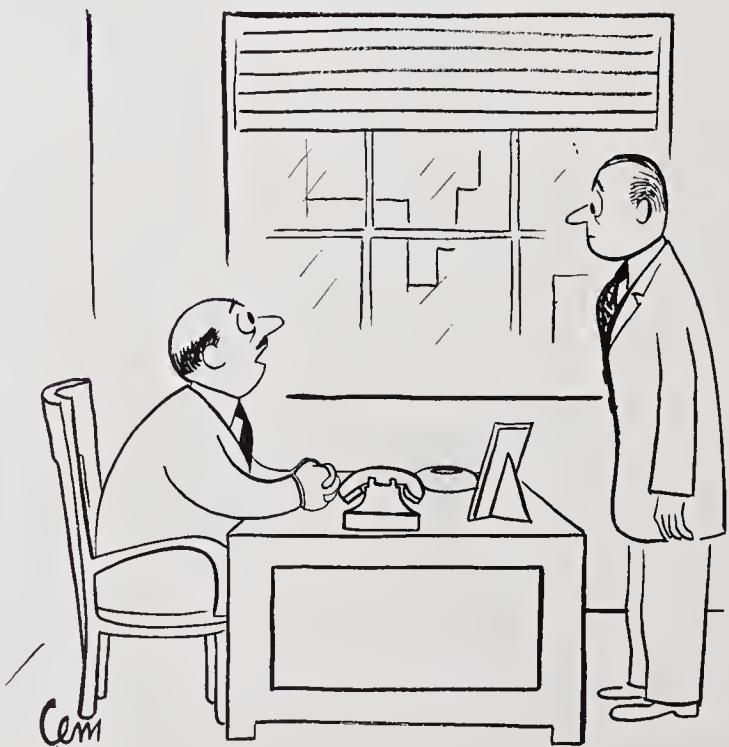
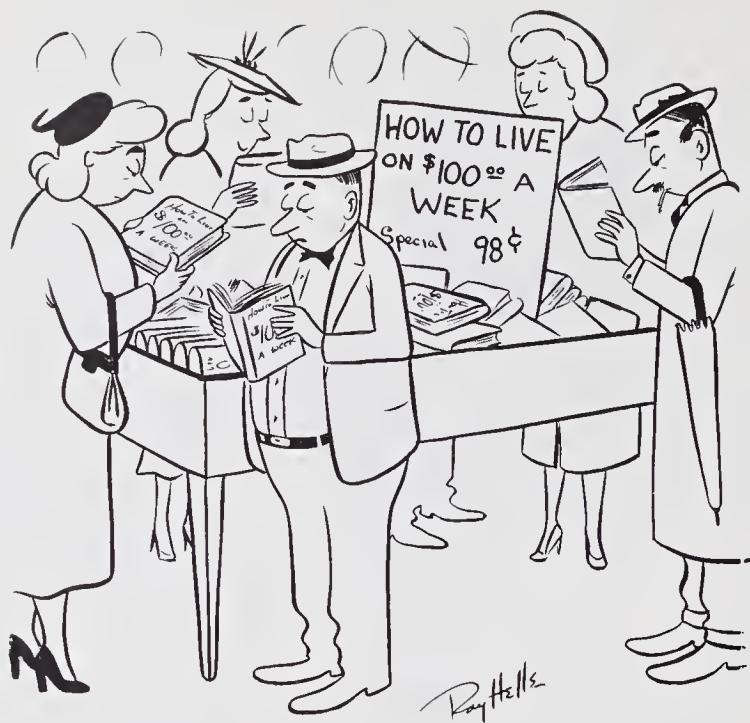
*"Oh, I don't want the information because I'm planning  
to buy into the company . . . I'm thinking  
of marrying into it."*



*"I'm glad you got in on time today, Jackson."*



*"Your wife is on her way in, Mr. Merkle.  
Better notice her new hat."*



*"It isn't that we don't like you here, Adkins.  
It's just that you've risen so rapidly, we have  
no place left for you to go."*



*"A hundred attractive ways to serve left-overs,  
you say? What are left-overs?"*



*"Mrs. Jackson, could I borrow . . . Oh, my!  
How nice . . . ruffles!"*

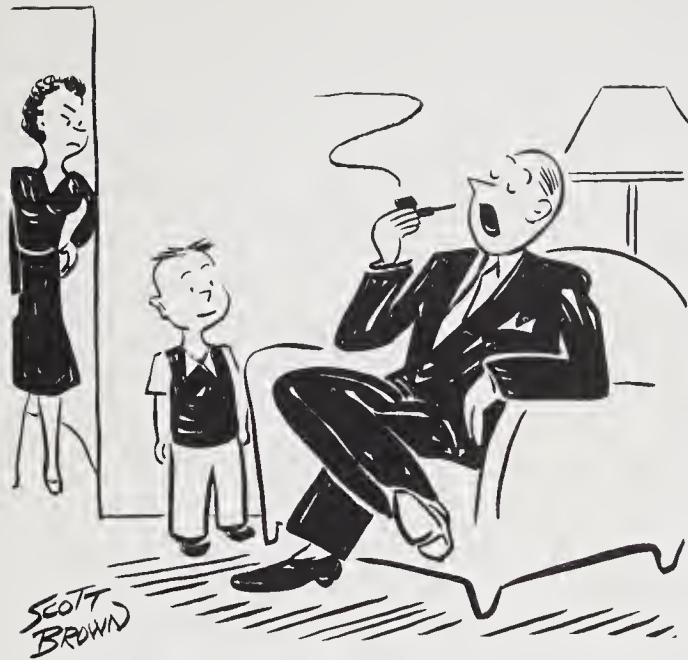


*"We're moving to some town near an  
easier golf course."*

*"Well, you tell your wife I don't see  
that it's the same as bringing work  
home from the office!"*



*"What kind of an investment do you advise for  
someone with a nervous disposition?"*



"Your mother and I first met in my office.  
Then she was my secretary.  
Now she's the treasurer."



"Parasite!"



*"Since he was retired he's been just like a fish out of water."*



"Guess who was too tired to shake out the door-mat this afternoon."



*"Certainly you can make a phone call. There's  
a booth right down in the lobby."*



*"I've—I've given you the best fiscal  
years of my life!"*



*"Anyone whose jokes I should think are particularly funny?"*



*"I hope you don't think this is my usual game."*



*"The gentleman who admired my hair-do may go in now."*



*"—standing there ringing that bell like an idiot when he ought to be in his shop working on my electric train—"*



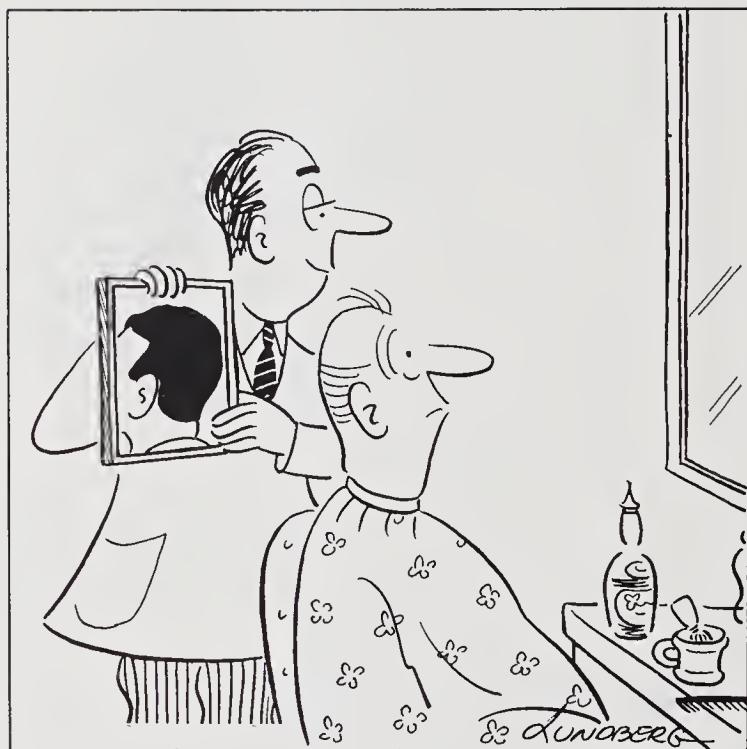
*"Personal call, Jackson?"*



*"Man, what a day I had at the office!  
I'm even glad to be home!"*



*"You mustn't ask what it's for—it's a secret."*



(Continued from Flap I)

to the glum husband's arrival back home — "Man, what a day I had at the office. I'm even glad to be home."



The range of these cartoons by outstanding cartoonists of the country is enormous — from the scowling Businessman who orders lunch, grumbling, "Even if I had octopus stew for lunch, my wife would have the same thing for supper tonight." — to the small boy regarding the Salvation Army Santa Claus outside the department store — "... Standing there ringing that bell like an idiot when he ought to be in his shop working on my electric train!"

This first collection of cartoons from **THE WALL STREET JOURNAL**, *The National Business Daily*, is not only a treat for the tired Businessman, but an evening full of laughter for everyone, including the little woman who irons out the cares from the tired brow of the breadwinner, and the wrinkles from his lap.



**E. P. Dutton & Co., Inc.**  
**300 Fourth Avenue, New York 10**

